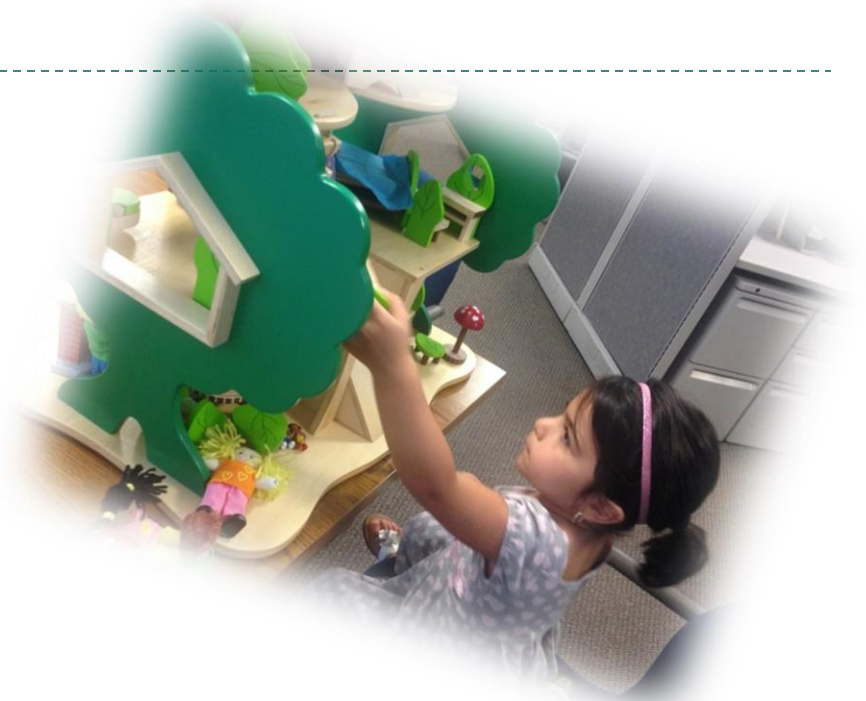




Preschool Development Grant Informational Meeting

Administered by the Arizona Department of Education Early
Childhood Education Section

Agenda



- ▶ Welcome and Introductions
- ▶ Overview of School Readiness
- ▶ Overview of the PDG
- ▶ Questions and Answers



Clear and Urgent Mandate

- ▶ **Improve Learning Outcomes
For All Children**
- ▶ **Close the Learning Gap**



School Readiness Framework

1. Common definition
2. Use of effective instruction, standards, curriculum, and assessment
3. Family engagement and partnerships
4. Quality transitions into kindergarten

School Readiness Definition

Arizona's young children will demonstrate school readiness through the Essential Domains of:

- * Language and literacy development
- * Cognition and general knowledge (including early math and science)
- * Approaches to learning (curiosity, initiative, persistence, creativity, problem-solving, confidence)
- * Physical well-being and motor development
- * Social and emotional development

Preschool Development Grant

The Purpose of the Preschool Development Grant (PDG), offered through the US Department of Early Learning, is to assist states in developing and enhancing capacity to deliver high-quality preschool programming as well as implement and sustain high-quality preschool for eligible children.

Overview

- ▶ The Preschool Development Grant (PDG) will allocate funds for the provision of **HIGH QUALITY**, as outlined in the Program Guidelines for High Quality and as measured by the Quality First System.



The Award

Arizona wrote for and received 20 million dollars annually for up to 4 years totaling 80 million dollars during the development phase.

Over the next 4 years 65% of the funding will go directly to Arizona sub grantees to provide high-quality, comprehensive preschool program services for eligible children.

Initial Criteria for High Needs Communities

The targeted HNCs met the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) criteria of serving a community with:

- * 80% Free and Reduced Lunch eligibility, *and*
- * 25% or higher English Language Learner population *and*
- * serve in a community where the district LEA has grade “C” or higher *and*
- * ADE looked at a K-3 enrollment formula for communities serving less than 50% of the predicted capacity of the community.

Year 3 Selection Criteria

Previous participation in PDG and in good standing

On tribal Land

Teacher with a Bachelors

Teacher with an ECE or ECSE certification

Lead Teacher has an AA and is enrolled in an credit- bearing program working towards ECE certification

In a rural area, as defined by zip codes

FRL % served

ELL % served

Licensed and in good standing

Already enrolled in Quality First

Star rating is 3 or above

Infrastructure

35% will be used by the State for infrastructure development needed to support high-quality preschool systems

- * Increased access to Quality First

(Mental Health Consultation, Inclusion Coaching, Child Care Health Consultation)

- * High level coursework leading to teacher certification

- * Institutes of Higher Education capacity building efforts

- * ADE Longitudinal Data System (SLDS)

Additional Notes

- ▶ *All participants in this grant will become part of the QF system*
- ▶ *All participants will be connected to the ADE longitudinal data system*
- ▶ *All participants will implement the Arizona Early Learning Standards and adhere to the Program Guidelines for High Quality: Birth through Kindergarten*
- ▶ *All participants must have an evidence-based curriculum*
- ▶ *All participating programs must provide instructional prep time for all instructional staff to:*
 - ▶ *Prepare lesson plans*
 - ▶ *Update GOLD data*
 - ▶ *Professional Development*
 - ▶ *Attend IEP meetings and conduct screenings*
- ▶ *All sub grantees will participate in an Early Childhood Quality Improvement Process (ECQUIP/COP) to collaborate with other sub grantees and local K-3 providers within the HNC.*



Child Eligibility

- ▶ Funding will support programming for children age 4 years old ONLY who may not otherwise have access to high quality early care and education during the year prior to their kindergarten entry.
- ▶ The child must be 4 years old prior to September 1st.
- ▶ Children age eligible for kindergarten should go to kindergarten.



Per Child Rate

Length of Service Day	Annual per Child Rate
Full Day	\$4,600
Part Day (Only to extend to full day)	\$2,300



Intensity of Service (Program Hours)

- ▶ Full Day/Full Time Services are defined as:
 - ▶ A minimum of 24 hours per week
 - ▶ A minimum of 4 days per week
 - ▶ 6 hours
- ▶ Programs must provide 9-10 months of programming depending on the Local Education Agency
- ▶ The school year should align with the Local Education Agency calendar



Grant Specific Requirements – Ratios and Total Group Size Standard

- ▶ May not exceed an instructional staff to child ratio of 1 to 10
- ▶ May not exceed a total class size of 20 children



Grant Specific Requirements – Child Assessment Standard

- ▶ Formative assessment activities will be used to inform individual instruction and program improvement and will include:
 - ▶ Quality observations and anecdotal notes; collecting work samples; and gathering family input
- ▶ All programs will use the Arizona State Board of Education approved, on-line tool for ongoing progress monitoring
- ▶ Training in appropriate use of on-line tool is required for all staff
- ▶ Sub-grantees must obtain Arizona Education Data Standards (AZEDS) numbers for students



Comprehensive Services

Required

- Least Restrictive Environment
- Child Find (including screenings)
- Family Engagement

Optional

- Family Resource Centers
- Food Security
- Parent Kits
- Parent Outreach and Awareness
- Literacy Support
- Care Coordination, Medical Home
- Oral Health



Staff Qualifications

▶ Director

- ▶ At a minimum must hold a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood, Child Development, Family Studies, or Early Childhood Special Education OR hold a principal's certificate through the Arizona Department of Education

▶ Teacher

- ▶ At a minimum the pre-kindergarten lead teacher must hold a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood, Child Development, or closely related field
- ▶ A provisional or a standard early childhood education certificate or endorsement will be required (R7-2-608 & R7-2-615)

▶ Teaching Assistant

- ▶ Hold an associate's degree in early childhood education/child development; OR
- ▶ A Child Development Associate (CDA) credential in early childhood education/child development; OR
- ▶ A college certificate in early childhood education/child development



Staff Compensation

- ▶ Compensation and benefits are adequate to support the hiring and retention of highly skilled staff
- ▶ Instructional staff salaries that are comparable to the salaries of local Kindergarten Teachers with the same teaching certificate



Cooperation and Collaboration

- ▶ All sub-grantees will participate in the Early Childhood Quality Improvement Practices (ECQUIP) with their district. Communities of Practice can be established to collaborate with other sub-grantees and local K-3 providers.



The Goals of the PDG within your Community

All programs will participate in a collaborative partnership within their community with the purpose of establishing a relationship that fosters a seamless system of early care and education

- ▶ Ensure effective transition from one program to another inclusive of kindergarten transition
- ▶ Promote school readiness
- ▶ Establish a family engagement plan
- ▶ Coordinate services, recruitment, most in need selection criteria and a wait list sharing process
- ▶ Coordinate professional development



Scope of Work (SOW)

- ▶ All sub-grantees will commit to complete all activities and tasks listed in the SOW. For example:
 - ▶ Kindergarten Transition Plan
 - ▶ Family Engagement Needs Assessment and Plan
 - ▶ Child Find Analysis
 - ▶ Participate in professional development
 - ▶ Professional Development Plan
 - ▶ Most in Need Selection Criteria
 - ▶ Comprehensive Assessment Plan
 - ▶ Least Restrictive Environment
 - ▶ Create a protocol for sharing wait list



Implementation Standards

- ▶ Programs must determine the eligibility of the children participating:
 - ▶ Children are 4 years of age before September 1st of the current program year
 - ▶ Must include children with disabilities
 - ▶ Family income eligibility must be at or below 200% of FPL
 - ▶ Verification of income eligibility must be provided by the family and maintained on site for at least two years
 - ▶ Families will not be charged additional costs
- ▶ Eligible programs will participate in the Grants Management System.
- ▶ Programs must show evidence of leveraged funding at a minimum of 20% of the total cost of services.

Next Steps

- ▶ Proposals will be sent to programs February 6, 2017
- ▶ Proposals due by March 6, 2017
- ▶ Decisions and award letters made in April 1, 2017
- ▶ Implementation in August 2017



Questions

Arizona Department of Education
Early Childhood Education

PDG@azed.gov

(602) 364-1530

